



Needham Market Town Council
Climate Awareness Group
MINUTES: Tuesday 12th November 2024
7pm, Green Room

Present	Amanda Reardon (Chair); John Reardon; Martin O'Shea; Jo Hughes; Ross Piper, Mark Dimes, Jean Pittaway, Richard Pittaway
Apologies	Andy France, Alan Wilkinson, Nicola Booth
Minutes of last meeting	Agreed
Feedback from Middle School Survey	• Skatepark- mixed picture but overall, a lot of support. • More trees • More benches (along the tree line up middle of the field) • A path from drift court to the causeway • Wildflowers • No housing We will discuss this further at a future date.
Community Orchard	Date for the IBC to be drained and pipe to be installed. Hedge. Need to discuss where the hedge would be. Town Council would need to agree and then we can have a planting day. Look to plant in January. Staggered double row of hedges along the bottom of the slope. Look to add 3 more trees towards the courts. 40m of hedgerow to be asked for. Action- John R and Ross to liaise to organise a date. Amanda to raise at next Town Council meeting. Check the number of green protectors that we have. Mark to prune the trees (consult Ben Robinson) Richard and Amanda will work on the application for the hedgerow and trees.
Meadow Management	Postpone until next meeting
Green corridors	Ross shared the green spaces which are more interesting for biodiversity. Martin will take this to the next Neighbourhood Plan Review meeting to be considered for adding to the neighbourhood plan as areas to be designated green spaces. The plan could also stipulate that any developer being given permission need to purchase a green space for the town to keep as a natural area. Some of the areas fall outside of the settlement/parish boundary so won't be able to be included on the plan. May be worth discussing with Barking Parish regarding working on a plan together.
Newsletter	There are 11 issues, add a CAG piece to each issue so that the presence of the group is out there. Action: Next meeting please bring ideas for the newsletter, and we can share this out.
Budget	The yearly budget is £2500. This will be asked for again.
AOB	• Crowley park- more trees can be planted here- no timescale but when trees become available. Currently 3 pear trees. Action- add 2 plums and an apple tree. • Discussion over making accessible signs about the orchard and other areas. Action- Jo Hughes to investigate this.

	• John Mattison- is pleased that the Town Council have become members of Mid Anglia Community Rail Partnership. This may help with access to the platform. • Martin discussed the taxi bus service. This would be a good newsletter item. There are 5 circular routes, and they run 2/3 times a day. Costs £6 per journey and you book online. This should get cheaper when regular uses use it. It is a mid-Suffolk initiative. • Thermal camera - Amanda has taken delivery of the SCC thermal box which will be collected from other groups who wish to use it.
Next Meeting	Tuesday 21/01/25 Planting meeting to be arranged via WhatsApp re hedge planting.